

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Crown Copyright documents reproduced by courtesy of The National Archives, London, England.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

The National Archives give no warranty as to the accuracy, completeness or fitness for the purpose of the information provided.

Images may be used only for purposes of research, private study or education. Applications for any other use should be made to The National Archives Image Library, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU.

EASTERN

**F.O.
371**

1947

PALASTINE

File No. 2329

**CLOSED
UNTIL**

1978

61915

1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

Registry Number } E 2329/2329/31

FROM } J. H. Graham

No. } Colonial Office

Dated } 16/21/46 H.

Received in Registry } 15. Nov 1947

18

Will get Immigration by 11.15.

Also that according to Reuter message, Baldwin, has made an appeal to Herbert Morrison to lead a committee, a number of C.O. aircraft, for collection of some people from Europe & Poland, suggests they be taken.

Last Paper.

No P.D.

References.

2330/48/31

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

61915

(Minutes.)

I think the first step is to ask Washington to watch this and keep us posted. We could repeat the tel. to Moscow for the information of the S/S; but it looks as if the latter had not been able to get very far with Mr Marshall as yet on the Palestine problem.

Mr Beelen

B.S. Davis
Mar. 19

(Action completed.)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

E 2440.

(Index.)

[Signature]

I think the C.O. are making unnecessary heavy weather of this. Mr. Baldwin is not a serious person, and I cannot

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

3

cannot imagine that the President
will grant his request. We might however
ask Lord Inverchapel to mention this
when taking up the whole question of
American aid for Jewish illegal immigration,
as he is instructed to do in Moscow tel.
to us no. 169.

H. B. Seeley 19/3

But surely the idea of secret makeshift
landing grounds for landing large aircraft
like D.C.4's is just nonsense. I think we
might check upon this with Air Ministry before
saying any thing to Washington.

R. B.
19/3

Now see E2440

13 Mar. 20

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915



76021/46A.

CONFIDENTIAL

Colonial Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

E 2329

13 March 1947.

Dear Beith,

I saw from a Reuter message dated New York, Tuesday, March 11th, that our friend ex-Congressman Baldwin, Chairman of the Political Action Committee of Palestine has made an appeal to the President to lend-lease to the Committee a number of D.C.4 transport 'planes for the purpose of repatriating Jews from the U.S. zone of Europe to Palestine. The Committee's advertisement in the U.S. Press states that the operation will be divided into two categories:-

- (a) 'Planes carrying women and children will be directed to secret makeshift landing fields in Palestine.
- (b) 'Planes carrying able-bodied men will be unloaded by parachute.

The Committee further undertakes to provide experienced, technical personnel to pilot and service these 'planes. The advertisement points out that one D.C.4. with 70 or more passengers is capable of making 4 round trips a day from a certain airport in Europe to Palestine.

As you are aware there is already in existence an American Volunteer Committee for ~~the~~ Hebrew Sea and Air Repatriation and it looks as if this is the first
/extension

J. G. S. BEITH, ESQ.

Mr Beith 4
Encl

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

5

extension in their activities from the sea to the air. We should be grateful for any further information about this new development. You will recall that at the Defence Committee meeting on Wednesday, my Secretary of State suggested that it might be desirable to ask the Foreign Secretary to approach Mr. Marshall ~~of~~ Moscow with a view to checking the flow ~~financially~~ from the U.S. to the illegal immigrant organisations in Europe. Perhaps at the same time Mr. Bevin could direct Mr. Marshall's attention to the above statement by Baldwin and ask that precautions be taken to ensure that any surplus American aircraft are not allowed to pass into the hands of ambiguous organisations.

I am sending copies of this letter to Chadwick Dodds and Low.

Yours sincerely,

John Higham

1800

1
2
3
4
5
6

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

1947

E 2440

Registry
Number

E2440/2329/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Lord Inverchapel

No.

Washington

Dated

16.4.47

Received
in Registry

17.4.1947

20

Illegal Immigration by Air.

Atch, has signature of Joseph Clarke, Jewish
Political Action Committee for Palestine, advertised
advertisement saying that they have called on
President to "lend lease" a number of RAF
aircraft for sole purpose of repatriating Jews
from "American zone in Europe" & Palestine
Exodus by air, for the advertisement says
already known details.

Last Paper.

2329

(Minutes.)

See E 2329 & minutes.

Copy sent to C.O. & M.I.5.
(usual names)

The C.O. will now see what
action Washington have taken.

I suggest that it is for them
to consult the Air ^(or Palestine) ~~My.~~
about the prospects of landing
on "makeshift fields". I

have spoken accordingly to
Mr Higham

Mr Beelen

J.S. Seims
Mar 20

(How disposed of.)

H. Hepham. B.O.

Admiral M.I.5

Mar 21.

(Action
completed.)

P. M. H. P.

(Index.)

H. B. P.

Next Paper.

2741

1
2
3
4
5
6

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

H.B. 207
13

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel D. 10.26 p.m. 17th March, 1947
No. 1647

R. 3.45 a.m. 18th March, 1947

17th March, 1947

Repeated to: Jerusalem
u u u u u

E 2440

Confidential

Over signature of Joseph Clark Town Political Action Committee for Palestine has inserted in certain newspapers full page advertisement saying that Committee and its Congressional Advisory Board headed by a number of prominent members of both houses of Congress have called on the President to "lend lease" to the Committee or any other recognised agency, a number of D.C. 4 transport aircraft for the sole purpose of repatriating Jews from "American zone in Europe" to Palestine. "Exodus by air" has the advertisement says already proved feasible. Committee undertakes to provide experienced personnel to pilot and look after these aircraft assuming all risks. Operation is stated to be in two parts -

- (a) aircraft carrying women and children will be directed to secretly designated makeshift landing fields in Palestine.
- (b) Aircraft carrying able bodied men will be unloaded by parachute.

One D.C. 4 with seventy or more passengers is said to be capable of making four round trips a day from "a certain port in Europe" to Palestine. Amount needed is given as ten million dollars and subscriptions are asked for.

2. We have asked State Department whether an approach to the President has in fact been made and what answer has been returned to it. In doing this we have urged that no assistance should be given by the United States Government to the Committee.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:-
FO
371 / 61915

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

E

E 2741

31 MAR

PALESTINE

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

Last Paper.

2440

References.

E 930/100/31

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/6.0.
April 1(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

3958

32003 F.O.P

Illegal Immigration by Air.

Refn to Gen. Order 15/10/47 of Jan 24

E/930/100/31. Enclosed copy of letter to
Joseph Black, Chairman of 21st Education
Political Action Committee, regarding
funds for purpose of sending 8/1/47
Immigrants to Palestine under alias 'Ethel'
'Exodus' ship.

(Minutes.)

Copy G.O. ?
IV. American Dept. 1.9/4

H.B. 31/3

1
2
3
4
5
6

Reference:-

FO

371/ 61915

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

9

British Embassy
Washington, D. C.

.....21 March, 1947.

Letter to Eastern Department 15/10/47
of 24 January 1947. 930/12206

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Letter to Joseph Clark Baldwin 21st March 1947.	Advertisements of Political Action Committee for Palestine.

E 2741

31 MAR

1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

COPYRIGHT ©
Reference:-

○

371 / 61915

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

10

British Embassy,
Washington, D.C.

21st March 1947

PERSONAL

Dear

I have seen in recent editions of the New York Post and P.M. advertisements inserted by the Political Action Committee for Palestine over your signature, soliciting funds amounting to ten million dollars for the purpose of sending illegal immigrants to Palestine by air under a plan entitled "Exodus by Air". The advertisement in the New York Post said that the President was being asked by the Committee and its Congressional Advisory Board to "lend-lease" D.C.4 aircraft for the transport of these immigrants from the American Zone in Europe to Palestine; that four round trips could be made each day from a certain port in Europe; and that women and children would be directed to secretly designated makeshift landing fields in Palestine, whilst able-bodied men would

The Honourable
Joseph Clark Baldwin,
Political Action Committee for Palestine, Inc.,
104 W. 70th St.
New York 23, N.Y.

/be

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

be unloaded by parachute.

I should like to remind you that when we met on January 17th I took up with you the question of the advertisements issued by your Committee during your absence in Palestine. You said that you had had nothing to do with their publication, that the views ascribed to you in them had been put together without your authority and that you had repudiated them in a telegram from London. You also said that you had forbidden the Political Action Committee for Palestine to issue any more advertisements.

You know that the British Government has now taken the decision to submit the Palestine question to the United Nations and you will realise that action such as that called for in these advertisements can have no other effect than to worsen immeasurably a situation that is already difficult enough. It can only be described as an attempt to force the hand of the United Nations when they come to

/consider

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

- 3 -

consider the problem, to create chaos in Palestine and to endanger still more lives. It is entirely irresponsible and should not have been put forward by any organization which seriously desires to see a quick and just solution to the problem such as will enable Palestine to move forward to a stable future.

I feel sure that these advertisements were issued without your authority and that you will repudiate them and make it clear that you are in no way to be considered as having given them your approval. I hope, too, that you will use your influence to see that they do not appear again.

Yours

INVERCHAPEL

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

2

E

E 3958

13

PALESTINE

13 MAY

Registry Number

E 3918/2329/31

FROM

Channing

No.

Washington

Dated

15/12/47

Received in Registry

3 May 1948

13

841 get Immigration by letter
 Report on the 710 (E 2741/2329/31)
 containing copy of letter to J. C. Baldwin
 from Baldwin's copy of Baldwin's reply.

Last Paper.

2741

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/ Higham
 P.O.

✓ Letter M.I.S.
 27 May

(Action completed.)

J. E. Cable

(Index.)

20/1/48

Next Paper.

6118

(Minutes)
 Copies to: Mr. Higham (Colonial Office)
 M.I.S. (usual names)

This is not a very satisfactory reply. This seems a
 typical instance where pressure for the
 publication of balance sheets might usefully be
 applied.

J. E. Cable
 14/5

The Baldwin is trying to
 re-insure with us! Most of the \$43,000
 will no doubt go on overheads.

N.A. Dept.
 29/5

16/5

1
2
3
4
5
6

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

13 MAY
3rd May 1947

CONFIDENTIAL

Under our P.L. despatch No.710 of 21st March (15/118/47), we sent you a copy of a letter which the Ambassador had sent to Joseph Clark Baldwin of the Political Action Committee for Palestine, concerning an advertisement inserted in the newspapers by his Committee appealing for funds for aircraft to take illegal immigrants to Palestine.

We did not at the time send you a copy of Baldwin's reply, but do so now, as he came in to see Balfour a few days ago and referred to it during their talk.

The main object of his visit, it emerged, was to ask that any communication from the Embassy be sent to him at his private address and not to his office, since his Committee insisted on seeing and approving all the letters he wrote, including his reply to the Ambassador, which was in consequence, he said, more vigorous than it might otherwise have been.

He took the line that but for his influence the Committee would have taken more drastic action by endeavouring to promote a boycott of British

/goods

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	
COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON Reference:- FO 371 / 61915					

He then said that he was trying to confine the Committee's activities to propaganda and that he was by no means anti-British. Balfour rubbed in very strongly that the advertisements could only worsen considerably an already difficult situation. Baldwin could only reply that other pro-Zionist organizations produced far more advertisements than his. We hope he was left with the clear impression that his attempt to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds was unlikely to lessen our objections to his activities.

CHANCERY

५८

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE. LONDON

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61015

1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

JOSEPH CLARK BALDWIN
62 East 78th St.
New York 21, N.Y.

C O P Y

March 24th 1947

To His Excellency
Lord Inverchapel,
British Ambassador,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

Your letter of March 21st has just reached me, and I hasten to reply. The advertisements of which you complain were not published over my signature, but contained my name as the Administrative Chairman of the responsible organization. In that capacity I authorized their release after a directive vote of a majority of the committee. Actually the decision was a compromise to avoid an action which I felt might have far worse repercussions as regards good Anglo-American relations, the maintenance of which, believe me, I still consider of paramount importance. For some months now I have successfully fought a Jewish boycott of English goods, nor was it the Political Action Committee of Palestine alone which was involved. Powerful Jewish groups both here and abroad were clamoring for such a step! I think you are quite as aware as I am of the strength of the Jews in commercial and banking fields, particularly as merchants.

As to the previous advertisements which you mention, all of which directly and bitterly attacked Great Britain, although the only one I publicly repudiated was that which brought in the King and Queen and the British Crown, I think you will agree that I kept my word and that no such further publicity has appeared sponsored by my committee.

You must remember that on the Palestine question we are dealing with a warrantably desperate people. My only desire is to make a constructive contribution to the solution thereof. In the overall picture I am convinced I am doing just that. Frankly I'm at a loss to understand the British Government's policy on the question, and I am convinced that a majority of the American people don't understand it, and that certainly the American Government doesn't. Nor do they approve.

For your information I might add that the "truce" recently proclaimed by the Irgun is to the best of my knowledge a bona fide one. This was undoubtedly done in the hope that the British Government will play fair. While I am not in direct contact with any of these people there are plenty of Jews in New York who are, and it is only natural that from time to time they should search me out. So far as I know one of the reasons for this promised period of calm was my own public and private plea that violence in Palestine should cease.

Probably Winston Churchill summed up the current situation when he said in a recent speech in Parliament that the present British Government's policy in Palestine was covering the Empire with "blood and shame". As an Anglophile I would say no more, and could say no less.

The Balfour Declaration, followed by the Anglo-

/American

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

- 2 -

American Convention of 1924, which was approved by the U.S. Congress, made certain commitments. I fail to see how we can honorably avoid them. Certainly the present homeless Jews in Europe have a right to the home promised them therein.

I trust this gives you my position and my point of view. Should you want to discuss either of them further by mail or by conference you can reach me here in the first instance and in the second will find me at Aunt Daisy's in Washington for a few days in the not distant future.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) JOSEPH CLARK BALDWIN

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	1	1

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

PALESTINE

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

EC/118/2329/11

Embrey

11/1/52

1121

1037.

11/14/14

[illegible]

Last Paper.

795-8

References.

(Minutes.)

1. 1911 } 1911
 2. 1912 } 1912
 3. 1913 } 1913
 4. 1914 } 1914
 5. 1915 } 1915
 6. 1916 } 1916
 7. 1917 } 1917
 8. 1918 } 1918
 9. 1919 } 1919
 10. 1920 } 1920
 11. 1921 } 1921
 12. 1922 } 1922
 13. 1923 } 1923
 14. 1924 } 1924
 15. 1925 } 1925
 16. 1926 } 1926
 17. 1927 } 1927
 18. 1928 } 1928
 19. 1929 } 1929
 20. 1930 } 1930
 21. 1931 } 1931
 22. 1932 } 1932
 23. 1933 } 1933
 24. 1934 } 1934
 25. 1935 } 1935
 26. 1936 } 1936
 27. 1937 } 1937
 28. 1938 } 1938
 29. 1939 } 1939
 30. 1940 } 1940
 31. 1941 } 1941
 32. 1942 } 1942
 33. 1943 } 1943
 34. 1944 } 1944
 35. 1945 } 1945
 36. 1946 } 1946
 37. 1947 } 1947
 38. 1948 } 1948
 39. 1949 } 1949
 40. 1950 } 1950
 41. 1951 } 1951
 42. 1952 } 1952
 43. 1953 } 1953
 44. 1954 } 1954
 45. 1955 } 1955
 46. 1956 } 1956
 47. 1957 } 1957
 48. 1958 } 1958
 49. 1959 } 1959
 50. 1960 } 1960
 51. 1961 } 1961
 52. 1962 } 1962
 53. 1963 } 1963
 54. 1964 } 1964
 55. 1965 } 1965
 56. 1966 } 1966
 57. 1967 } 1967
 58. 1968 } 1968
 59. 1969 } 1969
 60. 1970 } 1970
 61. 1971 } 1971
 62. 1972 } 1972
 63. 1973 } 1973
 64. 1974 } 1974
 65. 1975 } 1975
 66. 1976 } 1976
 67. 1977 } 1977
 68. 1978 } 1978
 69. 1979 } 1979
 70. 1980 } 1980
 71. 1981 } 1981
 72. 1982 } 1982
 73. 1983 } 1983
 74. 1984 } 1984
 75. 1985 } 1985
 76. 1986 } 1986
 77. 1987 } 1987
 78. 1988 } 1988
 79. 1989 } 1989
 80. 1990 } 1990
 81. 1991 } 1991
 82. 1992 } 1992
 83. 1993 } 1993
 84. 1994 } 1994
 85. 1995 } 1995
 86. 1996 } 1996
 87. 1997 } 1997
 88. 1998 } 1998
 89. 1999 } 1999
 90. 2000 } 2000
 91. 2001 } 2001
 92. 2002 } 2002
 93. 2003 } 2003
 94. 2004 } 2004
 95. 2005 } 2005
 96. 2006 } 2006
 97. 2007 } 2007
 98. 2008 } 2008
 99. 2009 } 2009
 100. 2010 } 2010
 101. 2011 } 2011
 102. 2012 } 2012
 103. 2013 } 2013
 104. 2014 } 2014
 105. 2015 } 2015
 106. 2016 } 2016
 107. 2017 } 2017
 108. 2018 } 2018
 109. 2019 } 2019
 110. 2020 } 2020
 111. 2021 } 2021
 112. 2022 } 2022
 113. 2023 } 2023
 114. 2024 } 2024
 115. 2025 } 2025
 116. 2026 } 2026
 117. 2027 } 2027
 118. 2028 } 2028
 119. 2029 } 2029
 120. 2030 } 2030
 121. 2031 } 2031
 122. 2032 } 2032
 123. 2033 } 2033
 124. 2034 } 2034
 125. 2035 } 2035
 126. 2036 } 2036
 127. 2037 } 2037
 128. 2038 } 2038
 129. 2039 } 2039
 130. 2040 } 2040
 131. 2041 } 2041
 132. 2042 } 2042
 133. 2043 } 2043
 134. 2044 } 2044
 135. 2045 } 2045
 136. 2046 } 2046
 137. 2047 } 2047
 138. 2048 } 2048
 139. 2049 } 2049
 140. 2050 } 2050

CG 22917

143. 15/7

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) C.O. (Mr. Kishnam)
MIS. (Col. Robertson)
Calc. Off. (Comm. Evershed)
✓ July 26

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

R129/7

10/9/48

Next Paper!

7974.

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

○

371 / 61915

Smuggling of D. P.'s by Air Into Palestine Told by Rabbi

Official of Political Action Committee Here
Says Planes Drop Emigrants by 'Chute
to Waiting PT-boats.

By CHARLES WYER.

Stacked in a corner of one of the rooms of the second-floor headquarters of the Political Action Committee for Palestine at the Hotel Walton, 104 West 70th street, are about a dozen parachutes.

When asked whether it was true that the committee was flying displaced Jews of Europe into Palestine, Rabbi Baruch Korff, founder of the committee and a member of its board, pointed to the parachutes.

"They are not souvenirs," he said.

Dr. Korff said that the committee had been in existence for nearly two years and that he hoped it would be extremely temporary, since it will have no further excuse for being once the displaced Jews have been placed where, in his opinion, they belong—Palestine. He said that the transportation of Jews to Palestine was progressing slowly but surely and he predicted that "before October the greatest exodus since Pharaoh will be under way."

Dr. Korff, a short, stocky man of 32, who lives with his wife and two small children at the Essex House, is a deadly serious young man.

Asked about the parachutes, he said it was not the practice to drop displaced Jews directly into Palestine, but rather to drop them in Middle East waterways, where PT-boats could pick them up and under cover of darkness smuggle them into Palestine.

"Those boats are very fast and they don't make much noise," he said, in almost a whisper.

Asked where the money came from to finance this project, Dr. Korff said that it came from voluntary contributions which poured into the P. A. C. from all over the country.

In some cases, he said, planes, preferably flying boats, have been given by their owners or by groups which purchased them. Many of these planes are second-hand. As for the pilots, with the

D. P.'S ARE SMUGGLED INTO PALESTINE BY AIR

Continued from Page 1.

exception of two or three, they are former American Army and Navy flyers, who volunteer their services, some for pay and some gratis.

One pilot who would be flying displaced Jews into Palestine this very day, but for the accident which killed him nearly a month ago, he said, was William E. Coney, the 40-year-old Eastern Airlines pilot, who was killed with his crew and fifty passengers when a DC-4 four-engine plane crashed into a forest near Port Deposit, Md., on Decoration Day.

Flying Boat Experience Needed.

Coney, according to Dr. Korff, intended to take a six weeks leave of absence from Eastern Airlines on the completion of the fatal flight and take a hand in the P. A. C. flying expeditions in Europe.

"Who was going to pay him?" Dr. Korff was asked.

"Well," he replied, "Mr. Coney was to receive his compensation in Europe."

"How much?"

"I haven't the slightest idea."

Coney was one of the country's most experienced flyers and during the war was commander of the Navy's famous Mars flying boat. That experience was especially valuable for P. A. C. purposes because few land planes are used in the P. A. C. work. For that reason, Dr. Korff said, many former Army flyers were not accepted because they were familiar only with land planes.

A spokesman for Eastern Airlines said that he could not say what Coney's plans were, but that as of the date of his death

he had not made application for a leave of absence.

Dr. Korff pointed out that the transportation of displaced Jews into Palestine by plane or boat was a risky business and reminded the reporter that less than two weeks ago a plane carrying ten Rumanian Jews was forced down in Turkey.

Not All Flyers Jewish.

Men seeking flying jobs with the P. A. C., he said, must pass rigid security tests and they have to pass the scrutiny of a former FBI agent and a secret panel of three men.

Asked whether all the flyers were Jews, he said that far from it, they represented all races.

"We've had a few Irishmen and one is a Britisher who said he wanted to atone for the sins of his Government against the Jews," Dr. Korff said.

Dr. Korff said that the committee was organized in Washington, but had had its headquarters here for the last fifteen months. He said that he himself was the United Nations observer for the group, that he serves without pay and enjoys only that income which he receives from the New York rabbinate. The committee has 35,000 members, but the right to dictate policies rests strictly with the board of directors. Of the latter, Joseph Clark Baldwin, former Republican Representative from the Seventeenth Congressional district of New York, is the administrative chairman. Baldwin devotes his entire time to the organization and after a tour of Europe last year submitted a lengthy report to President Truman. Baldwin said he was not familiar with the flying of displaced Jews into Palestine; that he devoted his attention to the political aspects of the job.

"Our Government could settle it tomorrow," he told The New York Sun.

"Why doesn't it?" he was asked. "That I don't know," he replied.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:-
FO
371 / 61915

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

6

E

21

'1947

PALESTINE

E 7974

AUG 1 1947

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E 7774/2329/31

Cheney

Washington

12/34/47

2-10-48

30

Illegal Immigration by Air.
 Rabbi Hersh of Political Action Committee
 secured the committee had received pledges
 for \$10,000,000 to put into effect the
 plan for parachuting Jews into Palestine.
 This money would be available in October
 if Congress did not recommend the
 amendment in a resolution of 100,000 Jews.

Last Paper.

6/1/4

References.

V.R 56860

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/ Higdon
 Robertson
 Executed
 Sept 4

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

7/26/47
 20/1/48

Next Paper.

E 8003

(Minutes.)

Copies to:

C.O.

M.I.S.

bureau office

usual
names

N.A. Dept.
 P.C.D. P.D. 24/9

Shable
 (J.E. CABLE)

30/8
 JB Aug 30

1
2
3
4
5
6

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

22

BRITISH EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

August 25th, 1947.

E 7974

Ref. 133/34/47

AUG 1

Dear Department,

The New York Herald Tribune of August 18th reported that Rabbi Baruch Korff, co-chairman of the Political Action Committee for Palestine, announced on August 17th that his committee had received pledges for \$10,000,000 to put into effect its plan for parachuting Jews into Palestine. This money, according to Rabbi Korff, would be available in October if the United Nations' Special Committee did not recommend the immediate immigration of 100,000 or more Jews into Palestine. He refused to name the organisations which had pledged the funds, but said that the names of some of them would be released in October if it proved necessary to attempt his plan. (You will remember that Joseph Clark Baldwin told Balfour some months ago that this committee had only some \$43,000 in its possession and was therefore not in a position to implement their plan of "Exodus by Air".)

Rabbi Korff is on his way to Paris and he said that he planned to be in Europe for about three weeks, during which time he would confer with members of the United Nations' Committee in Switzerland and also with Palestine underground leaders. He applied a few days ago to the Passport Control Office in New York for a transit visa for England and a visa for Palestine, both of which were refused. He then endeavoured to get the Embassy to intervene, but got no change out of us. The Passport Control Office has sent a warning about him to London, Paris, Geneva and Jerusalem.

We are sending a copy of this letter to Jerusalem.

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

[Signature]

1
2
3
4
5
6

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

7

23

E

E 8003

1947

PALESTINE

SEP 1

Registry Number } E8003/2329/31
FROM }
No. }
Dated }
Received in Registry }
133/35/47
Aug 26
Sept 1.

Illegal Immigration by Air.
Refer Washington letter (133/34/47) of
Aug 25. (E 8003/2329/31) Refer News Agency
report that in February, President of American
for Hagarach, an Israeli Rabbi Koop's
arrangement at a circus street
further particulars.

Last Paper

7974

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

8/ Higham
Robertson
Excluded
Sept. 15

(Action completed)

GCH 25/9

(Index)

[Signature]

Next Paper

(Minutes.)

The airborne Rabbi has since
extended his plans to include
strategic bombing. It seems doubtful
whether any of his schemes will
ever have any practical result.

Notes to: C.O.
M.I.5
Cabinet Office } usual
names

N.A. *[Signature]* 7/9.

[Signature]
(J.E. CABWE)
10/9

The usual internal schisms
in political Jewry.
Mr Beelen 14.10.47

10 Sept. 10

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Reference:-
FO

371 / 61915

E 8003

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

August 26th, 1947.

Ref. 133/35/47

SEP

Dear Department,

Would you please refer to our letter (133/34/47) of August 25th, about the Political Action Committee for Palestine's plan for parachuting Jews into Palestine.

The Palcor News Agency of the same date contained reports that Mr. Feinberg, President of Americans for Haganah, has branded Rabbi Korff's announcement as a "circus stunt". He accused Rabbi Korff of attempting to "ride the wave of headlines" about the Exodus refugees, thus capitalising shamefully on human misery. Mr. Feinberg added that responsible representatives in Palestine, including Haganah, had unequivocally stated that such a stunt was impossible. They had also denied that Rabbi Korff or anyone else had ever succeeded in parachuting a single Jew into the Holy Land. If it had been possible Haganah would have done it. Mr. Feinberg concluded his attack by saying that Rabbi Korff had been collecting funds from gullible people for about a year, and by challenging him to show that any Jews had reached Palestine by land, sea or air through his efforts.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

24
End

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:-

FO

371 / 61915

COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON